

SIR JAMES WHITNEY ON DANGERS OF EXAMINATIONS

Points Out That Public Schools Should be an End in Themselves and Not Merely Preparatory for Other Higher Schools--Some Plain Speaking on the Subject.

(Toronto Globe.)

In the course of an interview on Saturday, Sir James Whitney made the following observations on the subject of the entrance examinations, and examinations generally:

"The government carefully considered the representations made regarding the entrance examinations this year, and the modification already announced, and sent out to the entrance boards goes so far, I think, as we ought to go in altering, for the present year, the standard now set. I want to speak quite frankly on this whole question of examinations. The danger of overdoing this phase of school work is great. Some parents seem more anxious to push the children on to the High Schools than to see that their preparatory training is thorough and complete. Some teachers boast of the number of pupils who pass the entrance, as if this test were the sole aim of the Public School course. Originally intended as a test of the fitness of pupils to enter upon High School work, this examination has become a sort of fetish, and devotion to it has interfered in a very considerable degree with the efficiency of the Public Schools. The thoroughness of the Public School training has been impaired, and many ill-prepared pupils have been forced into the High Schools.

"I see no reason to change the views I expressed several years ago regarding the importance of Public School education to the great mass of the people. The percentage of children who go on to the High Schools is a mere fraction of the whole. This being so, our Public Schools should be improved in every way possible. The Government has taken several steps to attain this end. We have established enough Normal Schools to provide better trained teachers and we have now better and cheaper textbooks. The course of study for the

Public Schools is being revised, and I am satisfied that a marked improvement will soon be observable in the efficiency of the training. But the co-operation of school boards is necessary if we are to keep efficient teachers in the profession, and the tendency to exaggerate the value of examinations as the chief object of education should be minimized.

"The High Schools, I am glad to know, are generally in a good condition, but our educational system will not produce the results it should if the Public Schools continue to put their best efforts into the preparation of pupils to pass the entrance, rather than to strive to raise the general standard in those subjects which are essential to the child in after life. The complaint is often made—and the evidence shows that it is justly made—that pupils who leave school at thirteen or fourteen do not read, write or spell properly, cannot add up columns of figures correctly, and are imperfectly trained for ordinary careers. Surely these are evils which will not be cured by a system of cramming for examinations, but by making Public School instruction more thorough. Some people advocate keeping children out of the High School until they are over fourteen, but I doubt if public opinion would justify so drastic a measure, and besides, I believe we can accomplish the reform needed by concentrating attention on the Public School course of study as an end in itself. The Minister of Education hopes to make such changes in the regulations as will, in time, ensure this result.

"When the schools open again teachers and pupils should act upon the idea that it is the intention of the department to exact a real working knowledge of the elementary subjects and not to keep the entrance standard low for the mere purpose of exhibiting a false show of efficiency by allowing large numbers to pass."

QUEEN OF SPAIN'S LIFE ENDANGERED

Madrid, July 30—Although the church leaders are co-operating with the Government to prevent disorder, the suspension of the constitution and a declaration of martial law throughout Spain is imminent.

Though all demonstrations have been prohibited, popular leaders of the clerical forces threaten to parade on Sunday at many points.

The bitter struggle now in progress has divided not only the nation but the court itself and one effect of this according to authenticated reports is that Queen Victoria finds herself in a disconcerting predicament.

The influence of the Battenburg family on Alfonso and the friendship that has existed between him and King Edward and King George of England, have caused dissatisfaction in high circles afflicted with the clericals and the attitude of these leaders toward the queen is scarcely cordial. All the friction that was aroused during the first years of the queen's presence here, by her dislike of Spanish court conventions, has been brought out again.

Since the king married, 25 Anglican chapels and 13 Protestant schools have been permitted to open, to the indignation of the reactionary elements.

The queen is now at San Sebastian which is a port on the Bay of Biscay. The Carlist agitation is at its height in that district where the greatest danger is felt to exist to the ruling house.

In the event of trouble, the queen and her children as well as her mother, Princess Henry of Battenberg, would probably be taken to sea on British warships.

Packey McFarland is making a big mistake roasting Lord Lonsdale of England. Lonsdale is one of the greatest sports in that country, and is a power in the game there.—Boston Globe.

ALEXANDER GIBSON FOUNDER OF MARYSVILLE

(St John Times)

This is the ninetieth birthday of Mr. Alexander Gibson, former lumber king of New Brunswick, founder of the town of Marysville, and one of the most enterprising for half a century of all the captains of industry in the province.

Mr. Gibson can look back to the time when there was only an old, abandoned sawmill where Marysville now stands. Fresh from successful lumbering operations at Lepreaux, he went to the Nashwaak. He cleared the stream and constructed driving dams, and thus solved the problem of a sure supply of logs every year. He built mills, opened brick yards, erected houses, added a cotton mill, built a church, and in the course of time there stood a town, throbbing with industrial activity, where before there had been but a record of failure. He took a hand in railway building and also conducted lumbering operations at Blackville and set an example of unceasing and well directed enterprise that was of immense benefit to York and Northumberland counties. He became also a powerful factor in York county politics, though studiously avoiding personal participation in public life. In Marysville he set the province the example of a sober town, where no liquor was permitted to be sold. If Mr. Gibson was an autocrat, his was a benevolent autocracy, that had regard for the welfare of the people. Business difficulties have darkened his later years, but cannot obliterate that splendid record of achievement which is a source of pride to all the people of the province. He has lived far beyond the allotted three score years and ten, and his fellow citizens today extend heartfelt congratulations.

There are about 275,000 automobiles owned by individuals in the United States, or one or every 400 population.

HAS HOME RULE BEEN AGREED UPON?

Parliamentary Conference Said to Have Considered it—Rumours that Representation of the Whole Empire was Discussed.

New York, Aug. 1.—In a cable from London, the American says:

Home Rule for Ireland, and Scotland as well, and an Imperial Parliament with representatives from all of her colonies, is the latest and the most important step in England's progressive political programme which has held the world's attention during the past year. It is also said that the House of Lords will be curtailed as to power and that other vital matters concerning the budget and home affairs have been definitely agreed upon by the leaders of both parties in Parliament who have been in conference since it met.

Mr. Asquith intends to make the announcement regarding the results of this secret conference, and it is generally admitted by those who took part in the conference that it will be the most important utterance ever pronounced by a Prime Minister of England. In fact, the matters agreed upon are of such importance that entire secrecy could not be maintained, and the capital today is eagerly discussing the progressive measures agreed upon.

It is known that the conferees reached an agreement concerning the veto power of the House of Lords, which was the chief reason for their getting together in committee, as it were, instead of precipitating discussion by throwing the matter directly into parliament, and that decision curtails the hereditary powers of the members of the House of Lords in the government of the people.

But when the leading members of the party met and began to discuss the affairs of government, they went beyond the matter of the House of Lords' veto and did what in the United States would be platform making, only in this case the platform was agreed upon by the leaders of both parties in Parliament, and is certain to be carried out.

According to the informant of the correspondent of The American, Ireland was secondly considered in shaping the Imperial policy, and it was decided to place Ireland and the Irish under the control of a grand committee, so that Ireland would have home rule in fact, but not in name, and instead of being separate from the British Empire, would be more closely welded to it. This same plan, it was agreed, would be extended to Scotland.

RELATIONS WITH UNITED STATES.

Next the conference agreed upon the necessity for an Imperial Parliament embracing and linking all parts of the British Empire and practically forming the United States of Great Britain.

The Daily Express, whose editor has been playing a most important part in the councils of the Unionist party, in speaking of the Irish situation, says:

"One of the most important aspects of this question, hitherto ignored and now being impressed upon thoughtful politicians, is that the relations between Great Britain and the United States is likely to become one of the most important questions of the future, and unless the Irish problem is disposed of there will be no change of the intimate relations existing between the two countries. The political influence of the Irish in the United States is strong, and so long as they cherish grievances against this country, no American statesman would be able to bring about a closer friendship with Great Britain.

"The United States, within the last few years, has become a great world power, and when the Panama Canal, linking the Atlantic with the Pacific, is opened, her position will be enormously strengthened and she shall take her place as one of the great naval powers in the Pacific. Britain's responsibilities in the Pacific are enormous, and it is certain as anything that delicate and difficult questions concerning the interests of the two countries will come up from time to time. Anything, therefore, that tends to improve the relations between the two countries cannot well be ignored by practical politicians.

The conference was conducted with such secrecy that it is impossible to give more definitely the programme agreed upon, but that the result was pleasing to all concerned is attested by the dinner at the Ritz Hotel Fri-

PRIEST TORTURED BIRDS TO ABET SCIENCE

But Pope was Pretty Mad About it, and Threatened Excommunication

Rome, Aug. 1.—Aldo Bennetti the parish priest of Terraia near Spoleto has invented an aeroplane with adjustable wings, identical to those of the swallows. ...

In an interview he explained the principle of his invention. He said he studied the flight of the swallows, and admitted having cut off the wings of several live birds and fitted them with mechanical wings which enabled them to fly.

The priest added that the birds were martyrs at science. It was indispensable that they should be tortured as he wanted, to test his invention and had not the money to build models, and was therefore bound to use birds.

The Pope read the interview this morning and wired to the Bishop of Spoleto threatening dire punishment to the parish priest if he resorted to these cruel and barbarous methods, which were worse than vivisection, as they did not benefit humanity.

The Pope instructed the Bishop to warn the inventor that he would deprive him of his right to celebrate Mass if he continued his experiments. At the same time, he sent a sum of money to enable the priest to build models as he wished to encourage aviation provided animal were not tortured.

The priest hopes to build an aeroplane and take part in the aviation meeting at Milan in September next. Meanwhile, he has promised not to touch swallows.

Billy Plimmer of England, ex-champion bantamweight, is now conducting boxing shows in English cities, and doing well.

Peter Maher is now tending bar in a Trenton saloon. He should hold on to that job, for he is now passe as a boxer.

day night, in a private room with the Colonial Secretary, Mr. A. J. Balfour Winston Churchill and others as guests. The utmost joviality prevailed and the dinner lasted until almost midnight.

Farm, Stock and Tools Sacrificed.

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AUCTION SALE

There will be a sale of all household furniture and furniture at my residence Park Barracks, Regent St., Thursday, August 4th.

SERGT A. J. WOODS
Sale starts, 10 a.m.
C. L. ATHERTON
Auctioneer.

PROBATE COURT

COUNTY OF SUNBURY

Wednesday, the Sixth Day of July, A. D. 1910.

In the matter of the Estate of Henry Nevers, late of the Parish of Lincoln, in the County of Sunbury, Farmer, deceased.

Let the heirs, next of kin, creditors, and all others interested in the Estate of the said late Henry Nevers, deceased, be cited to appear before me at the Court of Probate to be held at my office in Oromocto, in the County of Sunbury, within and for the said County of Sunbury, on Wednesday, the fourteenth day of September next, at eleven o'clock, in the forenoon, to show cause, if any they have, why license should not be granted to Martha True, Administratrix of the Estate of the said late Henry Nevers, deceased, to sell such of the real estate of the said deceased as may be necessary for the payment of the debts of the said Estate.

Given under my hand and seal of the said Probate Court, this sixth day of July, A. D. 1910.
(Sd.) JOHN W. GILMOR,
Judge of Probates
County of Sunbury.
(Sd.) EMMA E. ESTABROOKS,
Registrar of Probates in and for the County of Sunbury.
GREGORY & WINSLOW,
Proctors for Petitioner.

GUIDE FOR TRAVELLERS

INTERCOLONIAL DEPARTURES.

No. 303—Mixed for Loggieville, 5.00
No. 317—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 6.15.
No. 321—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 11.15.
No. 323—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 16.20.
No. 301—Express for Loggieville, Chatham, Campbellton, Quebec, Montreal, etc., 18.30.
No. 327—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 18.40.
No. 329—Suburban for Gibson and Marysville, 22.00.

ARRIVALS

No. 306—Suburban from Marysville 7.45.
No. 302—Express from Loggieville, Chatham Junction 11.25.
No. 308—Suburban from Marysville 13.30.
No. 304—Mixed from Loggieville and Chatham Junction, 16.00.
No. 310—Suburban from Marysville 19.15.
No. 316—Suburban from Marysville 21.55.

CANADIAN PACIFIC DEPARTURES

6.20 a.m.—Express for St. John, Portland, Boston, Woodstock, etc.
7.55 a.m.—Mixed for Woodstock and points North. Leaves St. Marys at 8.35.
9.45 a.m.—Express for St. John and points east.
4.45 p.m.—Mixed for Woodstock, via Gibson branch on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
5.50 p.m.—Express for Montreal, and Boston, Woodstock, St. Stephen, etc.
9.05 p.m.—Express for St. John and points east.

ARRIVALS

9.10 a.m.—Express from St. John and points east.
11.20 a.m.—Mixed from Woodstock via Gibson branch, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
11.35 a.m.—Express from Montreal Boston, etc.
7.50 p.m.—Express from St. John, and points east.
9.05 p.m.—Mixed from Woodstock, and points North.
10.50 p.m.—Express from Boston, Portland, Woodstock, St. Stephen, etc.

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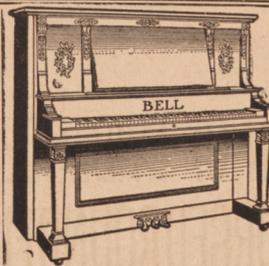
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